



# Crop Weather Report

Issue: 07-05

Issued: Weekly: Apr-Oct  
Monthly: Nov-Mar

Montana Field Office • 10 W 15<sup>th</sup> St, Suite 3100 • Helena, MT 59626  
(406) 441-1240 • (406) 441-1250 FAX • [www.nass.usda.gov/mt](http://www.nass.usda.gov/mt)

Released: April 9, 2007

For the Week Ending:  
April 8, 2007

## Agricultural Summary

For the week ending April 8, 2007, Montana received moderate amounts of precipitation. Livingston had the highest amount of accumulated moisture for the week at 1.24 inches. On April 3, Harlem experienced 3.5 inches of snowfall, breaking the old record of 3.2 inches for that date in 2003. Temperatures varied widely across the state. Superior reached 68 degrees, the high temperature for the week, and Gold Butte had the low temperature of 2 degrees. Topsoil moisture adequate and surplus is 82 percent, which is higher than last year's 79 percent and last week's 80 percent. Subsoil moisture adequate and surplus at 59 percent is better than last year's and last week's ratings which were both 56 percent.

The weather outlook for April 16 through the 22 is for above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation east of the continental divide and for above normal temperatures and near normal precipitation west of the divide. Normal temperatures for this period in the state are for highs in the mid 40s to the upper 50s and for lows in the upper teens to the lower 30s.

## Field Crops Report

Much needed moisture received during the week has slowed most spring field work. Cooler temperatures have slowed winter wheat development, but the condition of the crop remains above last year and the five-year average. Winter wheat good and excellent is 68 percent, above last year's 49 percent and the five-year average of 40 percent.

Soil Moisture and Fieldwork Table	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Avg
<b>Topsoil Moisture</b>				
Very Short	3	2	3	15
Short	15	18	18	28
Adequate	70	71	71	52
Surplus	12	9	8	5
<b>Subsoil Moisture</b>				
Very Short	10	10	11	31
Short	31	34	33	34
Adequate	55	53	53	33
Surplus	4	3	3	2
<b>Days Suitable for Fieldwork</b>				
Days	1.4	2.8	1.7	3.3
<b>Field Tillage Work in Progress</b>				
None	72	74	81	71
Just Started	19	20	13	18
Well Underway	9	6	6	11

According to the NRCS, March mountain precipitation statewide was 66 percent of average. As of April 1, mountain snow water contents statewide were 70 percent of average and 70 percent of last year. About 95 percent of the mountain snowfall season was complete on April 1. Rain will be necessary to keep rivers and streams from having critically low flows.

## Livestock Report

Range and pasture feed condition rated good and excellent is 34 percent compared with last week's 38 percent and last year's 37 percent. Seventy-two percent of pastures are open for livestock grazing, despite the recent snowfall in the state.

Crop Progress Table	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Avg
<b>Winter Wheat – Spring Stages</b>				
Still Dormant	12	13	18	24
Greening	40	39	52	46
Greening and Growing	48	48	30	30
<b>Spring Wheat</b>				
Planted	5	4	2	3
<b>Barley</b>				
Planted	10	9	7	10
<b>Oats</b>				
Planted	3	2	2	3

Crop Condition Table	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Avg
<b>Winter Wheat</b>				
Very Poor	1	0	1	8
Poor	4	3	6	13
Fair	27	27	44	39
Good	54	57	42	34
Excellent	14	13	7	6

Livestock Table	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Avg
<b>Range and Pasture Feed Condition</b>				
Very Poor	3	2	1	3
Poor	19	18	12	22
Fair	44	42	50	37
Good	30	29	30	25
Excellent	4	9	7	13
<b>Receiving Supplemental Feed</b>				
Cattle & Calves	87	89	88	87
Sheep & Lambs	88	91	92	90
<b>Livestock Grazing</b>				
Open	72	70	85	75
Difficult	16	15	8	9
Closed	12	15	7	16
<b>Livestock Calving</b>				
Calving Complete	71	62	75	71
Lambing Complete	47	39	52	49

### Weather Information for the Week ending 04/08/2007

[illegible]